

They Stand For Us
SYMBOLS OF MISSOURI

A Resource Book for Missouri Students





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Dear Young Missourians:

This coloring book was created with the help of Missouri students who were winners of a statewide contest sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of State. I hope that you enjoy the coloring book, crossword puzzle, and learning about our state's varied symbols.

Missouri became a state in our great United States of America in 1821. Since that time, citizens from across the state have periodically organized and petitioned the General Assembly to grant the honor of being designated an "official symbol" to the animals, music, minerals, and other items found in this coloring book. These symbols include things that are found throughout our state, are unique to Missouri, or have played a role in our history.

You can learn more about our state's history, symbols and also find games on our website at: www.sos.mo.gov/kids. Enjoy learning about our state, and please visit our office whenever you come to Jefferson City.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin Carnahan".

Robin Carnahan
Secretary of State



They Stand For Us

SYMBOLS OF MISSOURI

A Resource Book for Missouri Students

A Gift From
Robin Carnahan
Secretary of State

Illustrated by
Kristeen K. Cox

The State Amphibian has been added by the Secretary of State's Office
The State Dinosaur was illustrated by Keith Berdak

The Great Seal

The Great Seal of the State of Missouri is a symbol made up of many other symbols. Judge Robert William Wells, who designed the seal, gave each element a special meaning.

Circling the Great Seal is the state's motto: "Salus Populi Suprema Lex Esto" which is Latin for "The welfare of the people shall be the supreme law." The two large bears stand for courage and strength; the 24 stars show that Missouri was the 24th state to be admitted to the Union.

The Great Seal is used to authenticate official acts of the government. The secretary of state, entrusted as the official "keeper" or custodian of the Seal, affixes or embosses its likeness on documents and special papers. The first Great Seal was authorized on January 11, 1822.



Robin Carnahan

Robin Carnahan
Secretary of State

The State Capitol

Missouri's present State Capitol is actually the state's third in Jefferson City. After the second capitol burned in 1911, the people of Missouri decided to build the grandest in the country, using stone excavated from quarries near Carthage. The Capitol has many magnificent features—the rotunda, the stained glass windows, the murals and paintings and photographs of legislators. Two museums display items from Missouri's past and help explain the state's history and resources.

The Capitol is where our elected leaders meet to discuss the laws and programs which affect Missourians. The House of Representatives and the Senate meet to debate proposed laws in their own chambers, and the governor and other statewide elected officials have offices in the Capitol as well.

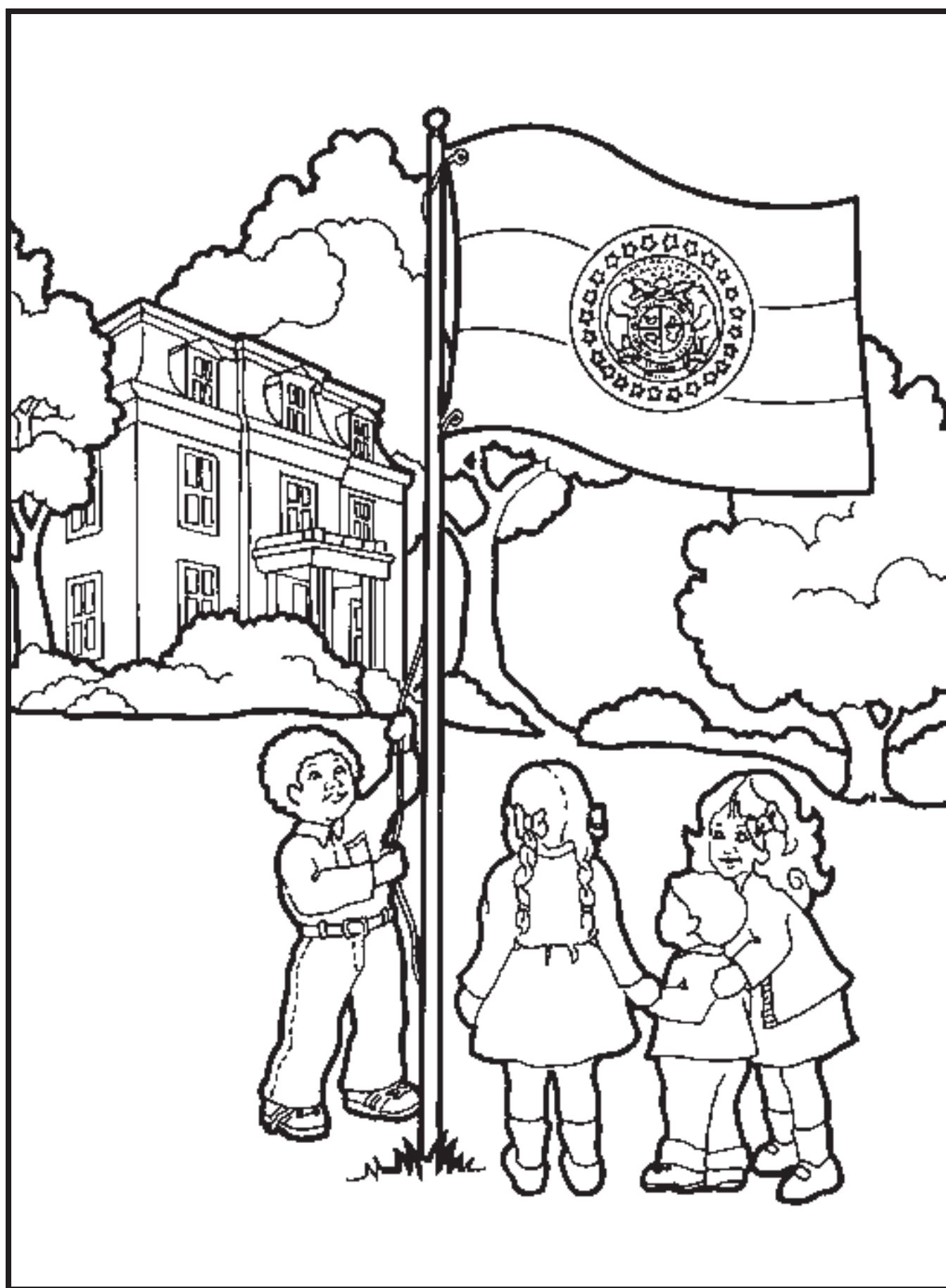


The State Flag

The Missouri state flag was designed by Marie Elizabeth Oliver, of Cape Girardeau. The flag consists of three large horizontal stripes of red, white and blue. In the center white stripe is the Missouri coat-of-arms. Thanks to the efforts of Missouri students, Mrs. Oliver's original flag has been restored and is on display in Jefferson City. The legislature adopted Mrs. Oliver's design as the official state flag on March 22, 1913.

Missouri Day

On March 22, 1915, the 48th General Assembly set aside the first Monday in October each year as "Missouri Day," due to the efforts of Mrs. Anna Brosius Korn, a native Missourian. In 1969, the 75th General Assembly changed the date to the third Wednesday in October. Missouri Day is a time for schools to honor the state and for the people of the state to celebrate the achievements of all Missourians.



The State Bird

The Bluebird

A symbol of happiness and a friend to farmers, the native bluebird is Missouri's state bird. With a distinctive red, white and blue coloring, the bluebird is easily recognized. The Missouri legislature passed a law naming the bluebird as the state bird on March 30, 1927.

The State Tree

The Flowering Dogwood

The flowering dogwood is Missouri's state tree. Found throughout the state, the dogwood is most beautiful during the spring, when its pink or white blossoms brighten both wild areas and city landscapes. The flowering dogwood became Missouri's state tree on June 20, 1955.



The State Musical Instrument

The Fiddle

The fiddle was an important part of Missouri life for many years, providing the entertainment at hoedowns or community events. The fiddle is also known as a violin; it just depends what kind of music you want to play on it. The fiddle was chosen as the state musical instrument on July 17, 1987.

The State Song

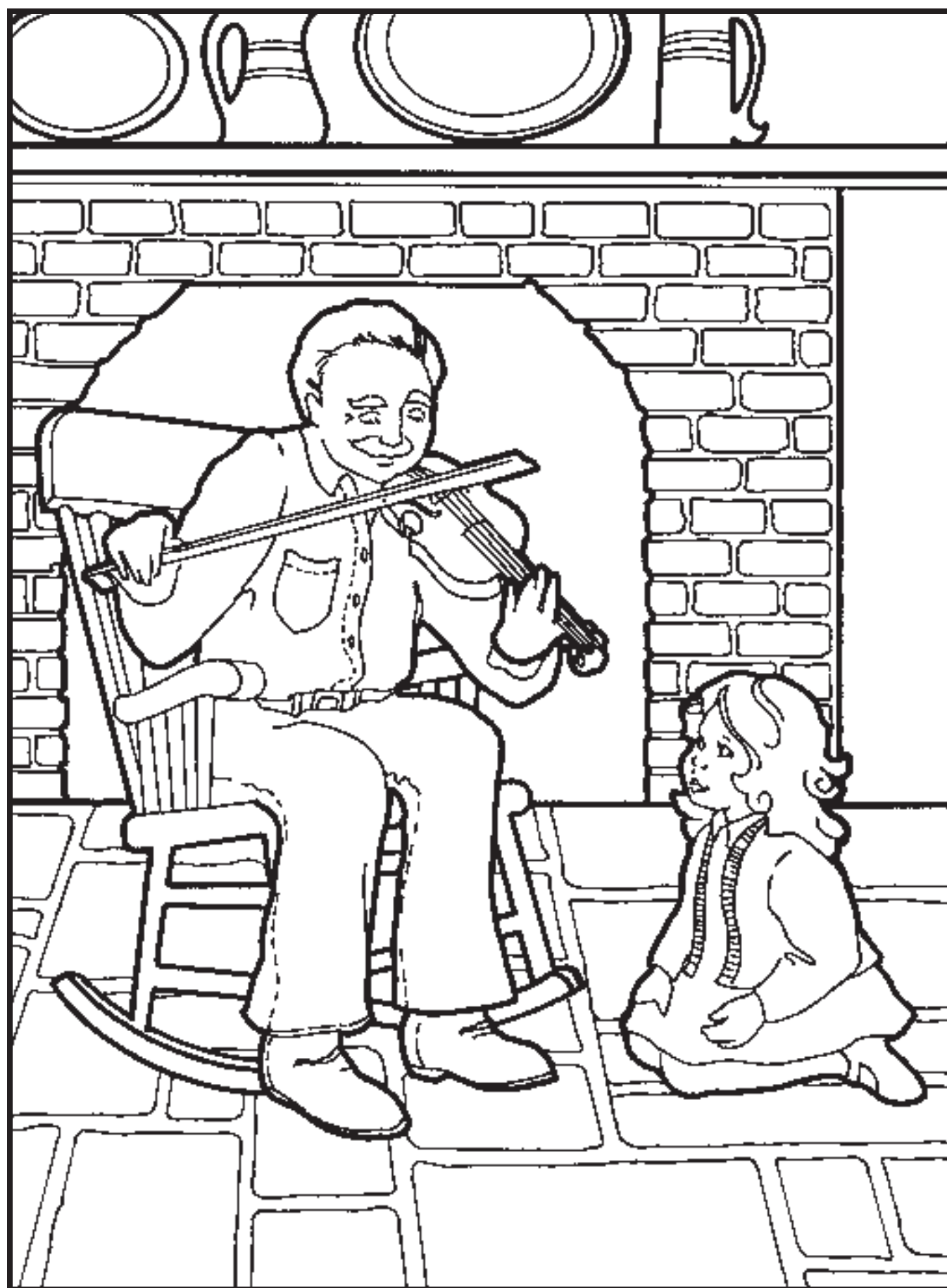
The Missouri Waltz

“The Missouri Waltz” is the state’s official song. It was first published in 1914 and did not sell well. By 1939 the song had gained popularity. After Harry S. Truman became president sales went up. “The Missouri Waltz” became the state’s official song in 1949.

The State American Folk Dance

The Square Dance

Square dances originated from folk and courtship dances brought to the United States by European immigrants. Lively music, often played on fiddle or banjo, and an animated “caller” are the hallmarks of square dancing. The square dance became Missouri’s official dance on May 31, 1995.



The State Floral Emblem

The Hawthorn

Missouri's state floral emblem grows on a tree. The white hawthorn has a thorny trunk and produces beautiful clustered blossoms in the spring. More than 75 species of the hawthorn are found throughout Missouri. The white hawthorn blossom became Missouri's state floral emblem on March 16, 1923.

The State Insect

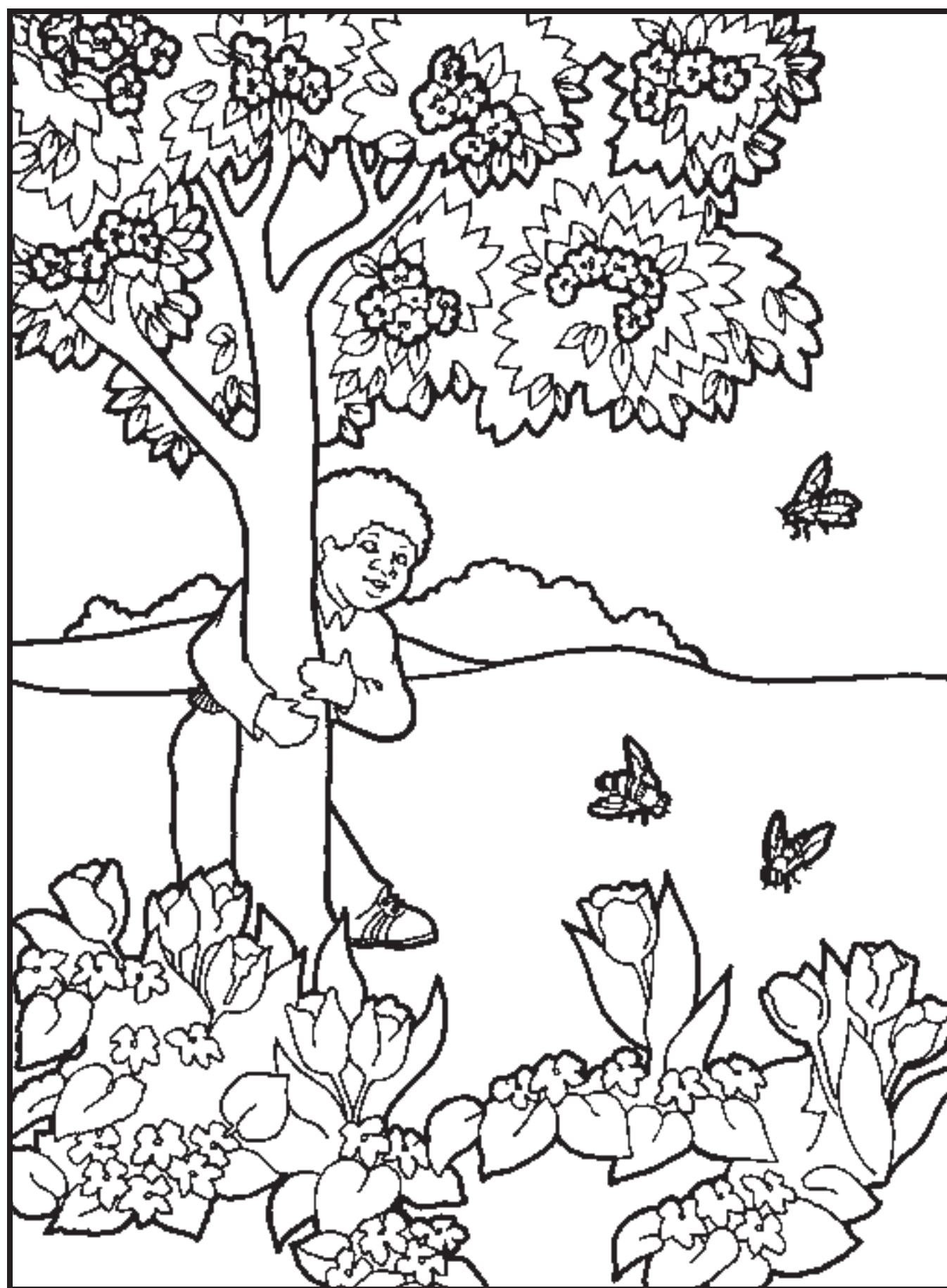
The Honeybee

The honeybee is Missouri's state insect. The industriousness of honeybees, which help pollinate crops as well as provide honey, convinced the General Assembly that the insect would be a suitable symbol for Missourians. The honeybee became our state insect on July 3, 1985.

The State Grape

Norton/Cynthiana

On July 11, 2003, the Norton/Cynthiana grape was adopted as the official state grape. This adaptable, self-pollinating variety has been cultivated since the 1830s and is likely North America's oldest grape variety still commercially grown.



The State Mineral **and State Rock**

Galena and Mozarkite

Much of Missouri's heritage comes from the state's soil. Lead is an important product throughout the world, and Missouri is a leading producer of galena, which is the principal ore of lead. Because the mineral was so important to Missouri's mining industry, galena became the official state mineral on July 21, 1967.

On the same day, the legislature recognized mozarkite as the state rock. Unlike galena, mozarkite has no major significance in mining, but when polished can make unique and attractive ornaments. Mozarkite, also known as chert, is found in the Missouri Ozarks.

The State Fossil

The Crinoid

The crinoid is the fossilized remains of an ancient sea animal that resembles a plant and is related to the starfish and sand dollar. Although not as abundant as they once were, there are about 600 species alive in the ocean today. Thanks to the efforts of Missouri students, the crinoid became the state's official fossil on June 16, 1989.



The State Tree Nut

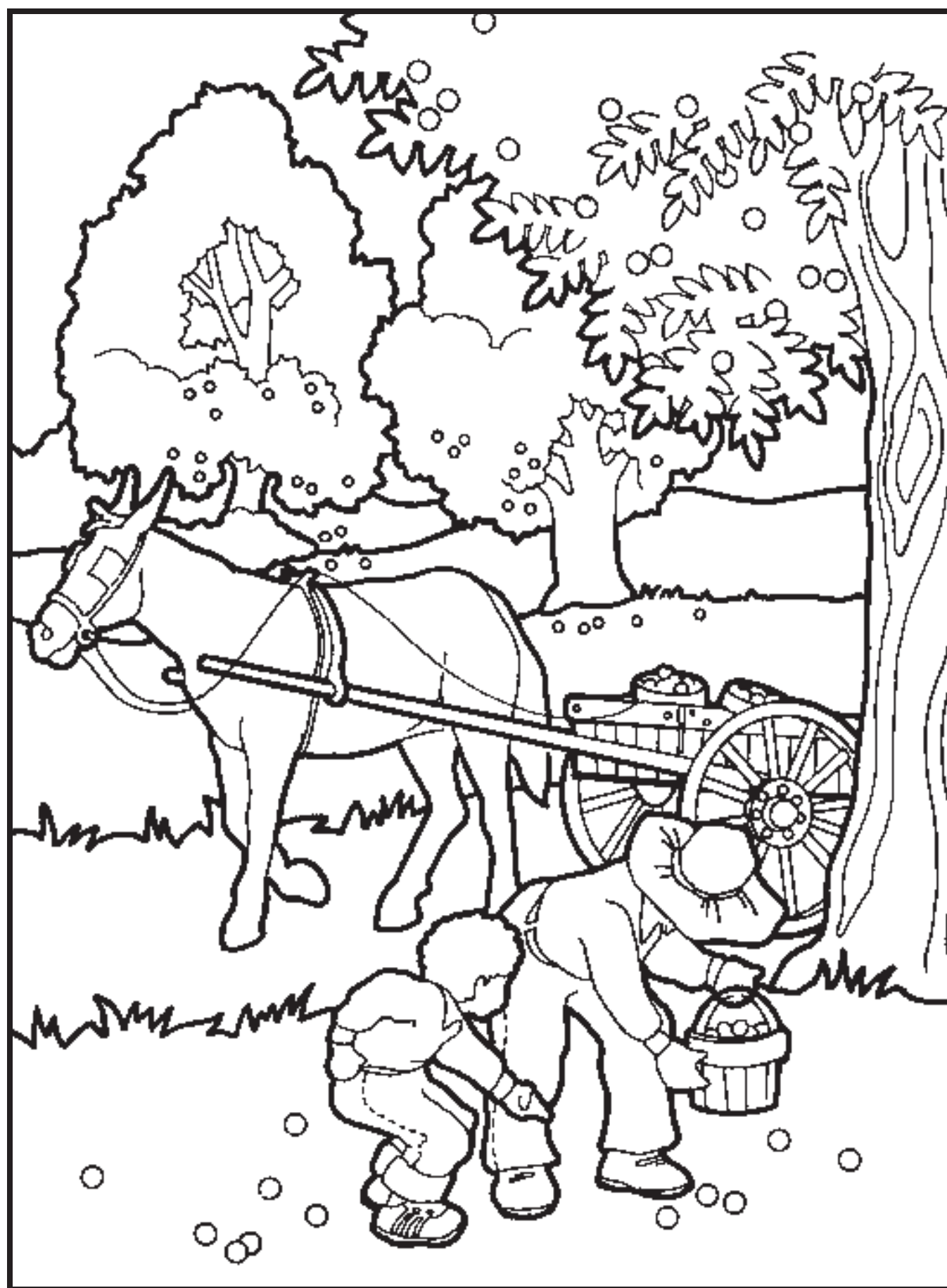
Eastern Black Walnut

The eastern black walnut became Missouri's official state tree nut on July 9, 1990. The walnut is a delicious food product and its shell is used in several industrial applications. Lumber from the tree is also highly valued.

The State Animal

Missouri Mule

Missouri mules pulled pioneer wagons to the American West during the 19th century and played a crucial role in moving troops and supplies during World Wars I and II. For decades, the Show Me State was the nation's premier mule producer. The Missouri mule was named the official state animal on May 31, 1995.



The State Fish

Channel Catfish

The channel catfish is slender, with a deeply forked tail. Young have spots that disappear with age. It does not rely on sight to find food; instead, it uses cat-like whiskers to assist in the hunt. The channel cat is the most abundant large catfish in Missouri streams. Its diet includes animal and plant material. Adults are normally 12 to 32 inches long and weigh from a half-pound to 15 pounds. The channel catfish was named the official fish May 23, 1997.

The State Aquatic Animal

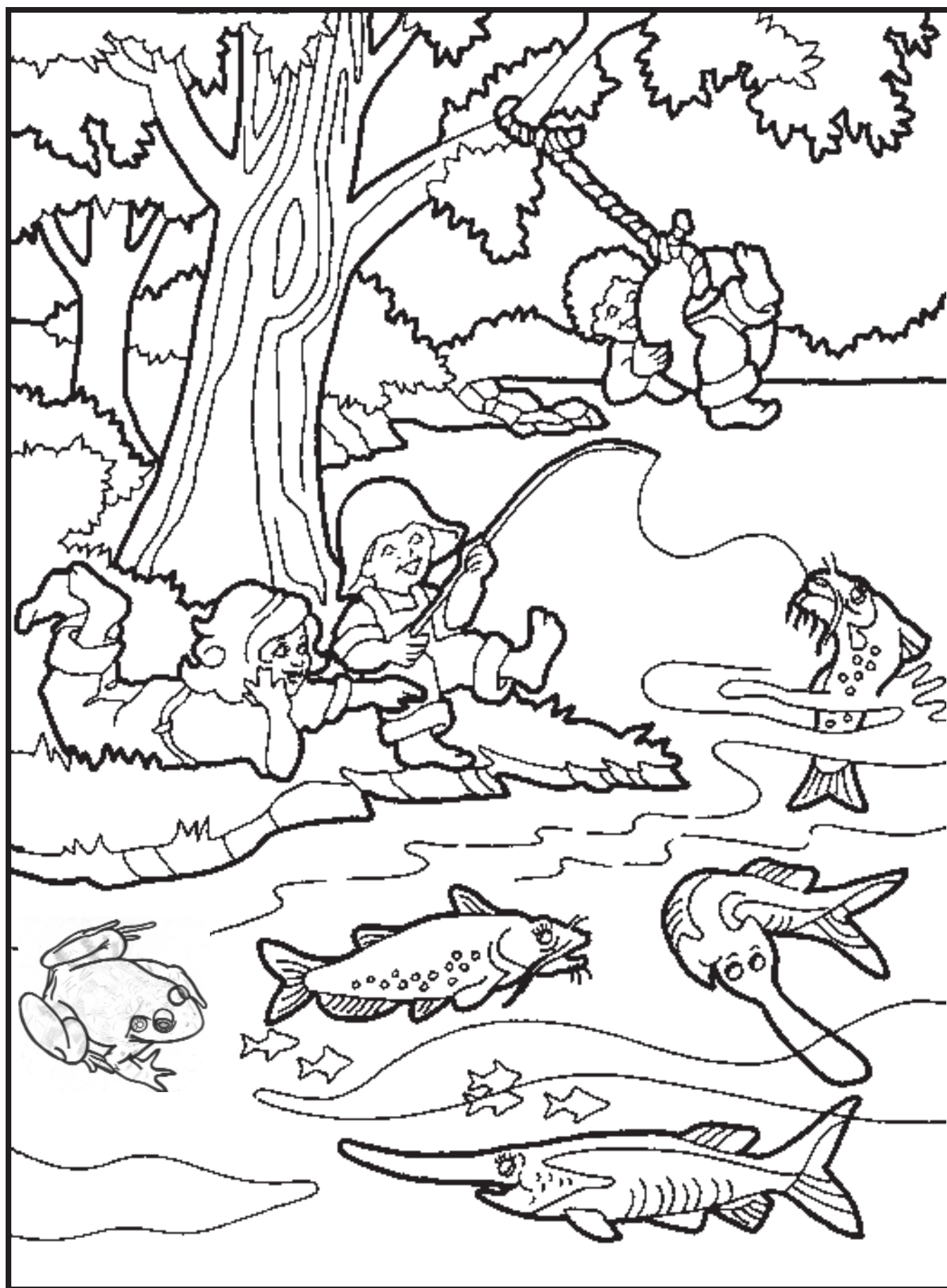
Paddlefish

Only three rivers in Missouri support substantial populations of the paddlefish; the Mississippi, Missouri and the Osage. They are also present in some of the state's larger lakes. The paddlefish is primitive, with a cartilage skeleton, rather than bone. They commonly exceed five feet in length and weights of 60 pounds; 20-year olds are common, and some live 30 years or more. The paddlefish was named the official aquatic animal May 23, 1997.

The State Amphibian

American Bullfrog

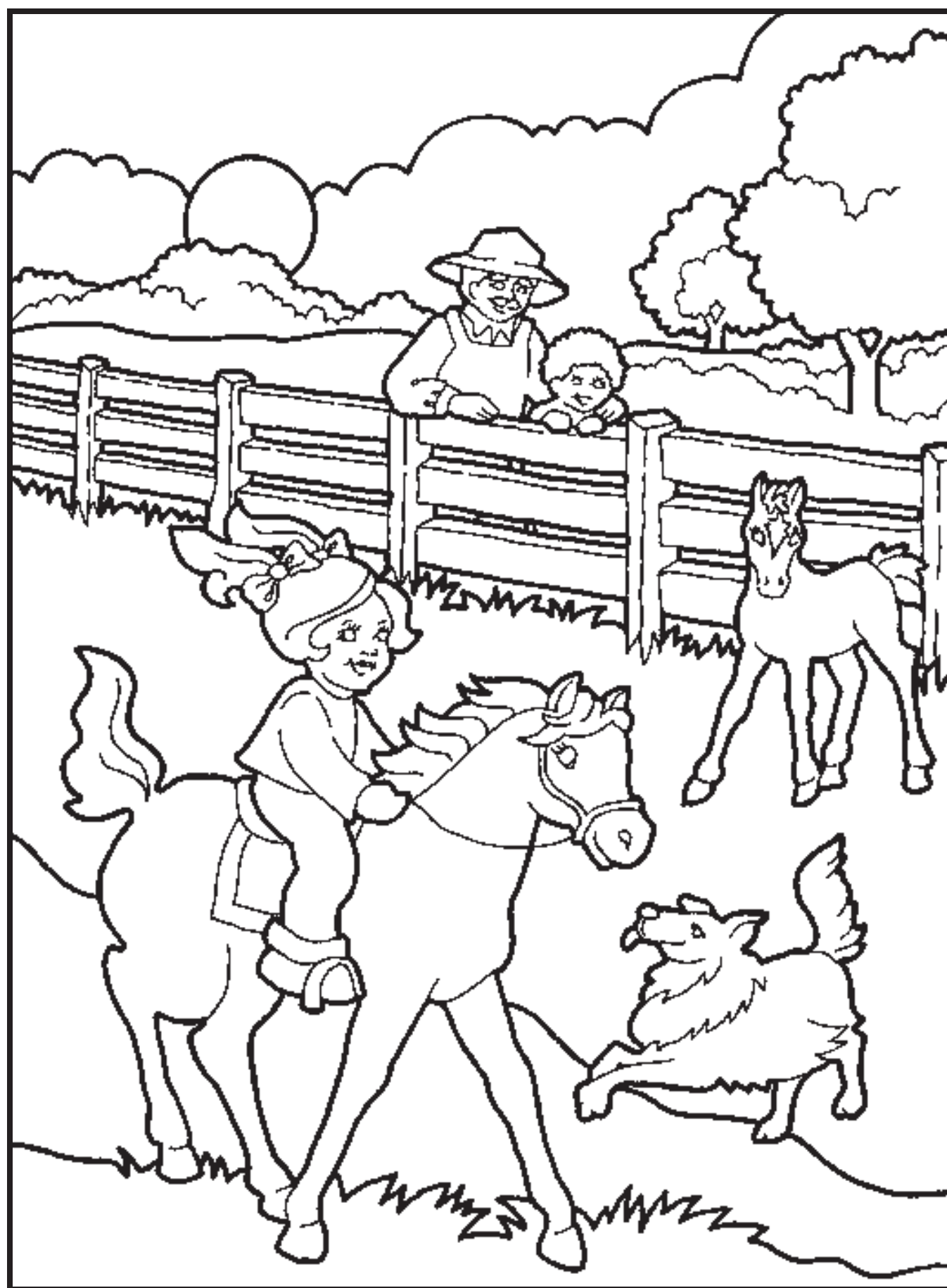
On June 5, 2005, the American Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*) became the official state amphibian. The bullfrog is the largest frog native to Missouri and is found in every county. Most Missourians are familiar with the deep, resonant "jug-of-rum" call, which is typically heard on warm, rainy nights between mid-May and early July. The idea for the bullfrog designation came from a fourth grade class at Chinn Elementary School in Kansas City.



The State Horse

Missouri Fox Trotter

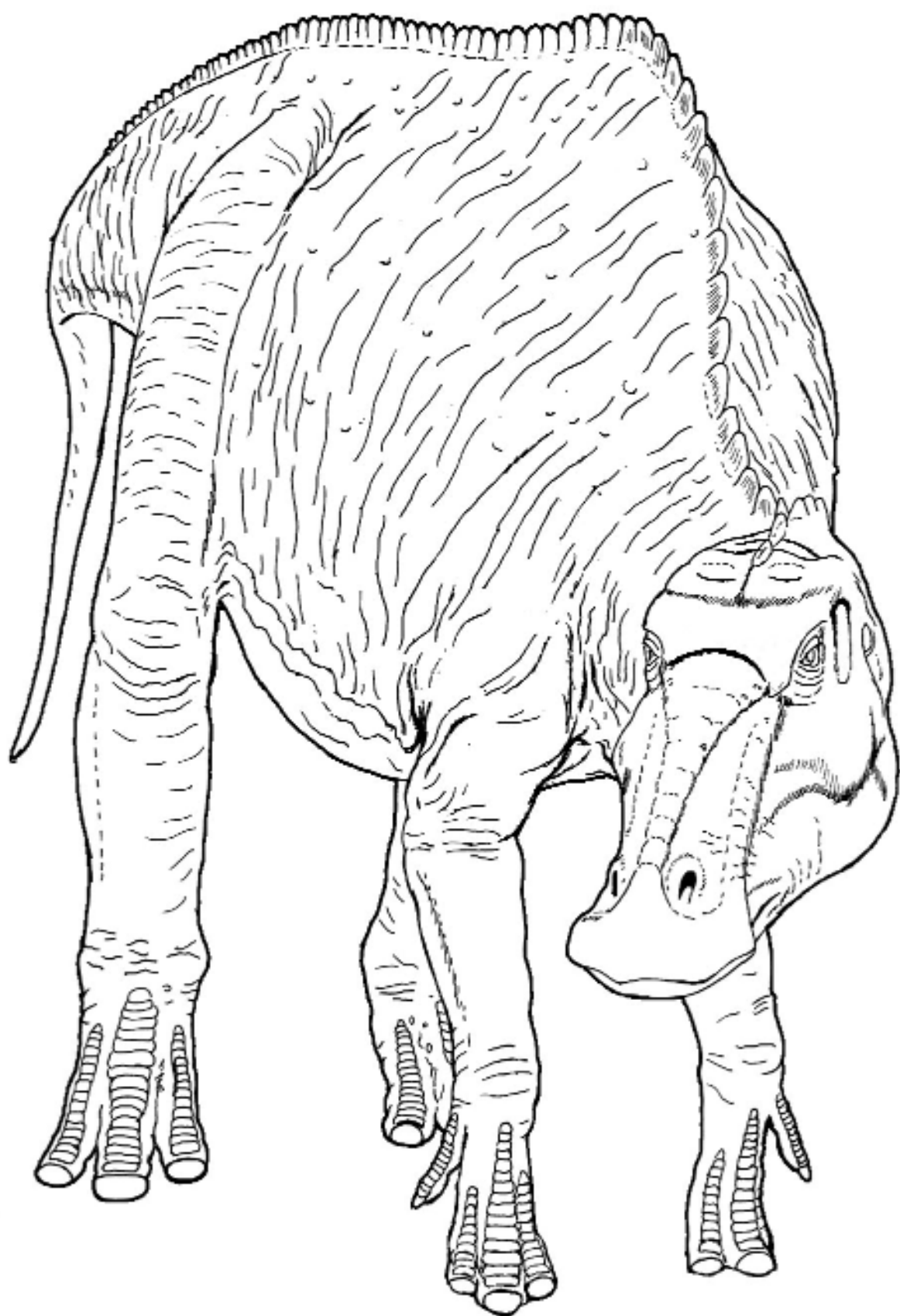
Missouri fox trotters were developed in the rugged Ozark hills of Missouri during the early 19th century. Bloodlines can be traced from early settlers to Missouri from the neighboring states of Kentucky, Illinois, Tennessee and Arkansas. The distinguishing characteristic of the fox trotter is its rhythmic gait, in which the horse walks with the front feet and trots with the hind feet. This gait gives the rider a smooth gentle ride. The Missouri Fox Trotter became the official state horse June 4, 2002.



The State Dinosaur

Hypsibema missouriense

Hypsibema missouriense is a type of dinosaur called a Hadrosaur or “duck billed” dinosaur. It was a herbivore with jaws that contained over 1,000 teeth. Hypsibema had evolved specialized teeth to handle the tough, fibrous vegetation of the time. Hypsibema lived in Missouri during the Late Cretaceous Period. Hypsibema was first discovered in 1942 by Dan Stewart, near the town of Glen Allen, MO, and became the official state dinosaur on July 9, 2004.



Crossword Puzzle

Across:

1. The State Floral Emblem
4. The Great _ _ _ _.
5. The Mule is the state's official _ _ _ _ _.
8. The State Rock.
10. Building which houses state government.
13. The State Fossil.
14. A state _ _ _ _ _ is an object, idea or expression that represents Missouri.
17. The State Musical Instrument.

Down:

2. The State Song: "The Missouri _ _ _ _ _".
3. Lively music and colorful costumes are associated with the state square _ _ _ _ _.
6. The eastern black walnut is the state tree _ _ _.
7. A famous Missourian who became president.
8. Our State.
9. The State Insect.
11. The State Mineral.
12. The State Tree.
15. The State Bird.
16. Originally designed by Mrs. Marie Elizabeth Oliver of Cape Girardeau.

Crossword Puzzle

[illegible]

